

Application No. 09/766736
Amendment dated March 31, 2006
Reply to Office Action of December 19, 2005

Docket No.: 013436.0235PTUS
Bortolini 6-7-1

REMARKS

Claims 1 – 10 are pending in this application.

In an Office Action mailed 19 December 2005, the Examiner rejected claims 1 – 10 under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by Applicants' prior art system. Applicants have cancelled claims 2 – 5 and 7 – 10, amended claims 1 and 6, and added new claims 11 – 24 in response thereto.

In a telephone conference dated 29 March 2006, the Examiner discussed the present claims and the pending rejection. Applicants have amended the independent claims 1 and 6 to recite the structural elements in Applicants' disclosure that distinguish Applicants' invention over the cited art; in particular, the data conversion in two different locations (levels) of the broadband network and the specific data conversions that occur exclusively at these two locations. Applicants have also added independent claims 11 and 15 to recite an alternate hub-based view of the invention. Finally, dependent claims 13, 14, and 16 -24 have been added to recite specific implementation details that are novel. Applicants believe that the amendments to independent claims 1 and 6 render these claims allowable over the cited art. In addition, independent claims 11 and 15 are believed allowable, since these claims are analogous to independent claims 1 and 6, respectively. Finally, Applicants believe that dependent claims 13, 14, and 16 – 24 are allowable, since these claims depend on allowable base claims.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicants believe the pending application is in condition for allowance. Applicants believe no fee is due with this response. However, if a fee is due, please charge our Deposit Account No. 50-1848, under Order No. 013436.0235PTUS from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Respectfully submitted,
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